

ATRACOTHRIPS MOCKFORDI, A NEW SPECIES FROM MEXICO  
(THYSANOPTERA: PHLAEOTHRIPIDAE)

LEWIS J. STANNARD, JR.

Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois 61801

ABSTRACT—*Atractothrips mockfordi* is described as new from the Territory of Quintana Roo, Mexico, and is compared to *A. bradleyi* Hood from Florida and Georgia.

The following description is of the third recorded species of the genus *Atractothrips*. It is named in honor of Dr. Edward L. Mockford, a psocopterist, who has discovered many new thrips on his trips throughout the world, particularly in Mexico.

*Atractothrips mockfordi* Stannard, new species

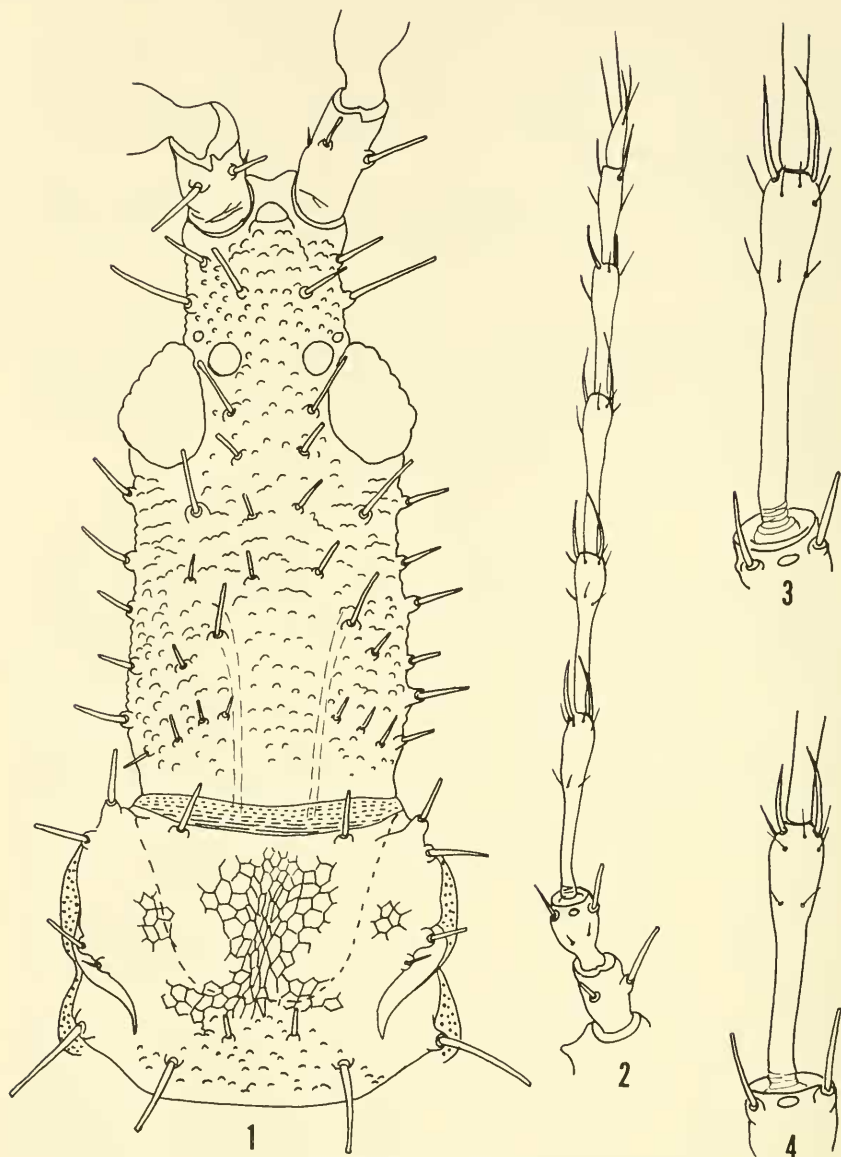
fig. 1-3, 6, 7

Female (macropterous): Length distended about 5.5 mm. Bicolored brown and yellow. Brown: head, being darkest on vertex and sides; antennal segments I and II, and terminal  $\frac{1}{2}$  of VIII; blotches on anterior portion of prothorax; pterothorax, being darkest along sides; median portion of midfemora, faint edge on outer sides of fore and hind femora; median portion of all tibiae, being lightest in fore tibiae; subapical triangle on all tarsi; mid-transverse line on each wing, being darkest on hind wings; extreme sides of abdominal tergum I; anterior margin of abdominal terga III to VII; blotches on abdominal terga III to VIII, becoming more extensive on each succeeding posterior segment; lateral margins of tergum IX; and X (tube) being reddish brown. Yellow: remainder of body, with antennal segments III to VII and base of VIII clear yellow; light colored areas of legs and abdomen yellow to pale yellow; and body setae generally hyaline.

Head, fig. 1, length 0.540 mm, with vertex extended beyond eyes decidedly more than it is in *bradleyi*. Antennal segment III, fig. 3, length 0.224 mm, longer than it is in *bradleyi*, fig. 4. Sculpture of head warty with many blunt setae or spines. Mouth cone broadly rounded.

Prothorax, fig. 1, hexagonally reticulate anteriorly becoming warty posteriorly, with setae generally well developed, blunt to slightly dilated apically. Mesonotum with a strongly developed lateral toothlike projection anterior to each spiracle. Metanotum with median pair of setae well developed, fig. 7, much larger than those in *bradleyi*, fig. 8; sides of metanotum strongly bulged, warty. Legs heavily beset with stout, spinelike setae, which are blunt to slightly dilated. Wings relatively slender, fore wings lacking accessory cilia.

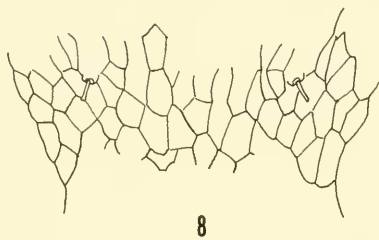
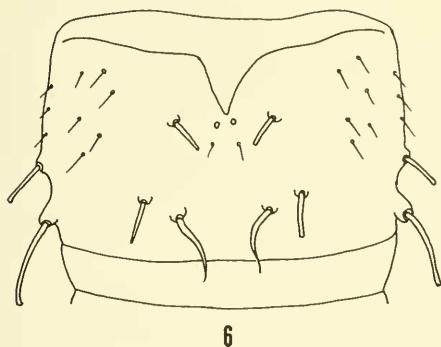
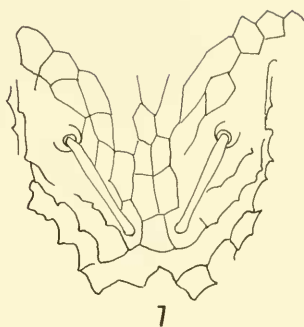
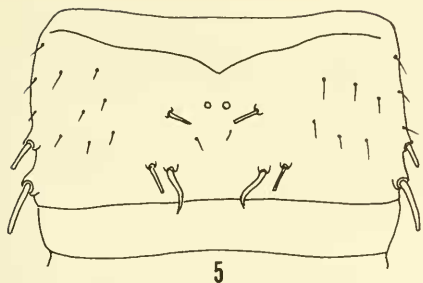
Pelta broad, reticulate. Abdominal terga II to VI with 1 pair of sigmoidal wing-holding setae and 2 pairs of straight, large setae, lateral and 1 anterior of each of the sigmoidal setae. Terga III to VIII with median part of subanterior sculpture drawn into a pointed tip, fig. 6, much longer than as in *bradleyi*, fig. 5, these points becoming shorter on VII and VIII. Tergum IX with posterior



Explanation of Figures  
All Dorsal Aspects

Fig. 1-3, *Atractothrips mockfordi*, ♀, macropterous. 1, head and prothorax. 2, right antenna. 3, antennal segment III.

Fig. 4. *A. bradleyi*, ♀ macropterous, antennal segment III, Fig. 5, *Atracto-*



*thrips bradleyi*, abdominal tergum III, ♀ brachypterous. Fig. 6, *A. mockfordi*, abdominal tergum III, ♀ macropterous. Fig. 7, *A. mockfordi*, metanotal setae, median pair, ♀ macropterous. Fig. 8, *A. bradleyi*, metanotal setae, median pair, ♀ macropterous.

setae stout, relatively short and slightly dilated at tips. Tube (segment X) very long, length 1.4 mm, and with terminal setae shorter than tube.

Male: Unknown.

Holotype: Female; 6.5 km south of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, Quintana Roo, Mexico; March 26, 1964; E. L. Mockford; beating dried leaves, including palm. Deposited in the collections of the Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana.

This Mexican thrips differs from the Sabalian *bradleyi* Hood (1938) in having antennal segments III to VI entirely yellow, not touched with brown at their apices as in *bradleyi*; in having antennal segment III longer; in having antennal segment VII yellow, not entirely brown as in *bradleyi*; in having a longer projection of the vertex of the head; in having larger and more prominent setae on the pronotum; in having the median pair of setae of the metanotum longer; in having the median portion of sculpture on the subanterior margin extended

posteriorly into a longer point on abdominal terga III to VIII; and in having a longer tube. Both species may be adapted to living in dead palm leaves; certainly *bradleyi* is common in dead palmetto and cabbage palm leaves, and probably *mockfordi* was beaten from a dead palm leaf when discovered by its collector.

Miss Ramona J. Beshear, University of Georgia, has kindly lent me specimens of *bradleyi* from Cumberland Island, Camden County, Georgia, which she collected on *Mariscus* on August 9, 1969. These specimens seem to be conspecific with South Floridian topotypes. Because of Miss Beshear's discovery the known range of *bradleyi* is extended well into the Lower Coastal Zone of the Southeastern United States, or Sabalian Zone as it is sometimes called (Dice, 1943).

The Solomon Islands species, *Atractothrips solomoni* Mound (1970), has a proportionately shorter tube, shorter than the head, and the intermediate antennal segments are shorter and thicker than they are in the 2 American species. As suggested by Mound in his original analysis, *solomoni* is so different and distinctive that it might have to be re-assigned to a separate genus.

Priesner (1960) places *Atractothrips* alone in its own subtribe, Atractothripina, of the Megathripinae.

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